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# H.CON.RES. 364 – RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Con.Res. 364 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) on May 22, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 364 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 22, 2008.

#### SUMMARY

H.Con.Res. 364 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals and ideals of Caribbean-American Heritage Month;
- Encourages the people of the United States to observe Caribbean-American Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and activities; and
- Affirms that-
  - o The contributions of Caribbean-Americans are a significant part of the history, progress, and heritage of the United States; and
  - o The ethnic and racial diversity of the United States enriches and strengthens the Nation.

## **BACKGROUND**

There are currently over ten million Caribbean-Americans in the U.S. Prominent Caribbean-Americans include first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton and Secretary of State Colin Powell. On June 5, 2006, President Bush issued a proclamation designating June as National Caribbean Heritage Month.

Among the events that were held this past June 2008 in celebration of Caribbean-American heritage were a Caribbean film festival, literature festival, National Caribbean-American Legislative Conference, and a Caribbean-American Legislative Forum.

### STAFF CONTACT

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